CHAPTER
23

#23

POCHAMANI

Hirama Kaname

raveysas
SCANNER

ienne
TRANSLATOR

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Charie
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Anndette
TYPESETTER

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QUALITY-CHECKER

Freewheeling
scanlations

FREEWHEELINGSCANS.COM

HIYAMA-KUN!
GLARE
...AH?
WAIT, THOSE AREN'T WEEDS! THEY'RE FLOWERS,

POINT
YOU, TAKE A GOOD LOOK.
THESE CAN'T BE FLOWERS 'CAUSE THEY'RE NOT BLOOMING.
THEY'RE GOING TO BLOOM SOON!
...YOU.

OH...!
I'VE ALREADY PLUCKED ALL OF IT...!
SAY THAT EARLIER!
POINT
PILED UP...
THAT'S RIGHT... MOST GUYS ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH FLOWERS... I SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU ABOUT IT FROM THE START.
I'M SORRY I DIDN'T REALIZE TILL NOW.
AH? DON'T APOLOGIZE. I'M THE ONE IN THE WRONG HERE.
THOUGH I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT ANYMORE.
Tch
I BETTER DO WHAT I HAVE TO DO.
HIYAMA-KUN!
AHHH! AGAIN!
IF YOU WANT TO APOLOGIZE, THEN TOMORROW... COME WITH ME TOMORROW!
AAAH?
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO COME TOO...?

.....
AH...
WELL, YOU SEE,
I'M ON DUTY WITH YOU TODAY AFTER ALL.
...PLUS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE GARDENING CLUB MIGHT GET SCARED IF HIYAMA-KUN GOES BY HIMSELF...
I SEE.
IT WOULD PROBABLY BE FINE AS LONG AS I LET HER KNOW BEFOREHAND TOMORROW, RIGHT?
Okay
You can pluck out the ones over here.
It's all right! He's not scary!
That Hiyama-kun?!
Eh?! He'll come?!
...I WONDER IF AKANE-CHAN IS HOME BY NOW.
It sure is hot today, too
...Since then,

Akane-chan told us...
I THINK I'LL TRY TO CONTINUE MY WEIGHT LOSS PLAN BY MYSELF FROM HERE ON OUT!
...YES!
EH?
ALONE ...?!
ALSO, IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR MASTER'S CRUCIAL ENTRANCE EXAMS.
FROM NOW ON, PLEASE USE YOUR TIME FOR YOUR OWN STUDIES!
TAGAMI-SENPAI, PLEASE FOCUS ON REGAINING YOUR NORMAL WEIGHT!
I'm so sorry!!
LOST
WEIGHT...
.....
She had such an earnest wish.

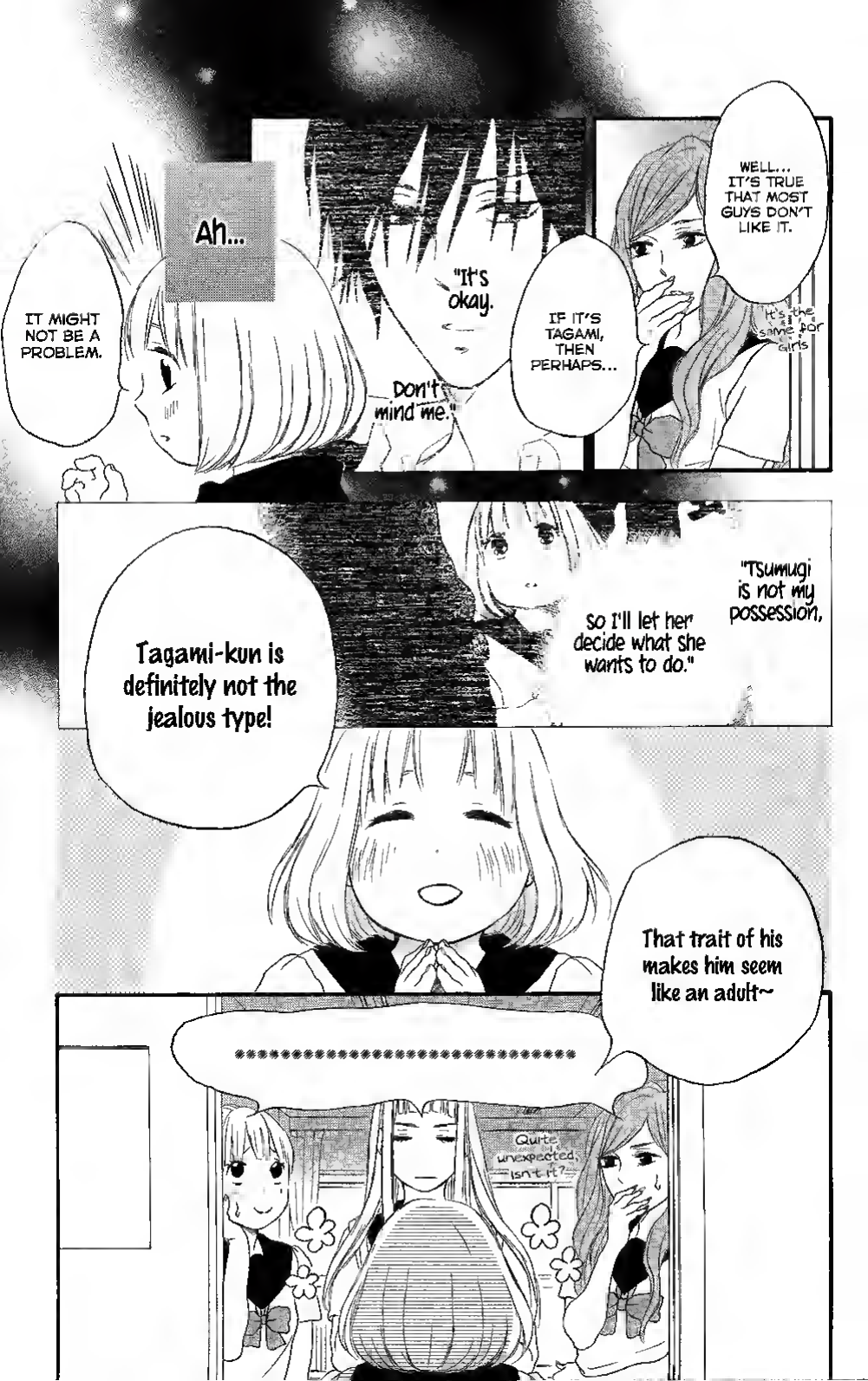
The three of us will now hold our meetings once a week.
At the same time, I'll keep on watching over Akane-chan.
3 - A
...THOSE TWO.
THEY'VE BEEN ON GOOD TERMS BEFORE WE KNEW IT.
EXCITED
ALTHOUGH IT'D BE GOOD IF A STRANGE RUMOR DOESN'T SPREAD...
WELL, OF COURSE THEY WOULDN'T WANT THAT. BUT HIYAMA NEVER TALKS TO ANY GIRL OTHER THAN MUGI.
OR RATHER, HIS FACE IS SCARY THAT NO GIRL DARES TO TALK TO HIM.
They're leading back Let's hide!

....
WELCOME BAAACK!
SLIP
STARE
HELLO THERE, TOMO-CHAN.
OH!
THUD
THUMP
TWINGE
TWINGE
GET UP
TWINGE
TWINGE
THUD
THUD
THUD
Ah
I wonder if he hurt himself
THERE'S NO ONE TO SERVE AS HIS CUSHION THIS TIME~
IS HE OKAY...?
IT'S YOURSELF YOU SHOULD BE WORRYING ABOUT, MUGI.

AKI-CHAN.
...SAY, MUGI.
IS IT ALL RIGHT FOR YOU TO HANG OUT WITH HIYAMA?
EH?
Ah
IT'S TOTALLY FINE.
HE'S NOT SCARY AT ALL.
HIS BROWS ARE ALWAYS KNITTED, SO ONE CAN'T HELP BUT THINK THAT HE'S ANGRY. BUT ACTUALLY...
"Thanks for the trouble."
HE'S A REALLY DILIGENT
AND KIND PERSON.
...I SEE.
That's not what I'm talking about though.
Hm...
I WOULDN'T KNOW IF HE'S KIND OR NOT.

MAMI-CHAN.
...IS THAT WHY YOU CAN EASILY TALK TO HIM?
But I know that Hiyamacchi is a clumsy one!
Since he slipped again on a cleaning cloth and fell.
*T/N: -CCHI IS A SUFFIX USED TO MAKE A NICKNAME OR TO CUTELY REFER TO SOMEONE
...SOME THINGS HAPPENED TO ME IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
I GET A LITTLE STIFF WHEN TALKING TO BOYS EXCEPT FOR TAGAMI-KUN,
I'M STILL NOT GOOD AT IT EVEN NOW.
BUT STRANGELY, IT'S REALLY EASY FOR ME TO TALK TO HIYAMA-KUN.
?
THOUGH IT'S DIFFER-ENT...
IT'S THE SAME FEELING WHEN I'M WITH YOU GIRLS..
...MAYBE,
THIS COULD BE MY FIRST TIME BEING FRIENDS WITH A GUY.

I'D BE GLAD IF THAT HAPPENS...
...THAT'S WHAT I THINK.
...DOES TAGAMI KNOW ABOUT IT? THAT YOU'RE ON GARDENING DUTY WITH HIYAMA?
...WELL, YES.
Yeah, yeah!
...NO, I HAVEN'T TOLD HIM.
OH, NO... WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER TO TELL HIM?
3-C
...UHM, BUT...
WOULD IT BE ALL RIGHT IF I TALK ABOUT ANOTHER GUY IN FRONT OF THE PERSON I LIKE?
I don't think it's a good idea...


Ah...
IT MIGHT NOT BE A PROBLEM.
"It's okay. Don't mind me."
IF IT'S TAGAMI, THEN PERHAPS...
WELL... IT'S TRUE THAT MOST GUYS DON'T LIKE IT.
It's the same for girls
"Tsumugi is not my possession, so I'll let her decide what she wants to do."
Tagami-kun is definitely not the jealous type!
That trait of his makes him seem like an adult~
Quite unexpected, isn't it?

I'LL BE LEAVING IN A BIT.
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE GOING TO STUDY FOR THE TESTS TOGETHER.
Ha!
If it's Tagami, then he'd probably jump in!
IT'S SO GOOD THAT IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'LL START STUDYING THAT AS WELL.
Since Mugi is full of openings
Ahhh, really. Their relationship is so good, I'm so envious~!
I'M SORRY FOR ASKING YOU TO COME ALL OF A SUDDEN.
BUT BOTH MY MOM AND ASA SEEM TO REALLY WANT TO SEE YOU...
...WITH THE WAY HE IS RIGHT NOW.
...THAT WON'T HAPPEN.
SIGH

REALLY? THAT'S GREAT~
I ALSO WANTED TO SEE THEM.
ASA'S REALLY GIDDY ABOUT IT SINCE THIS MORNING~
ASA-CHAN...
SOFT
SOFT
She's got all what it takes
I... I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT THAT...
I THINK SHE'LL BE A FINE CHUBBY WOMAN SOMEDAY.
SINCE IT LOOKS LIKE THOSE TWO WANT TO HANG OUT WITH TAGAMI-KUN
MORE IMPORTANTLY, I WONDER IF WE CAN STUDY PROPERLY

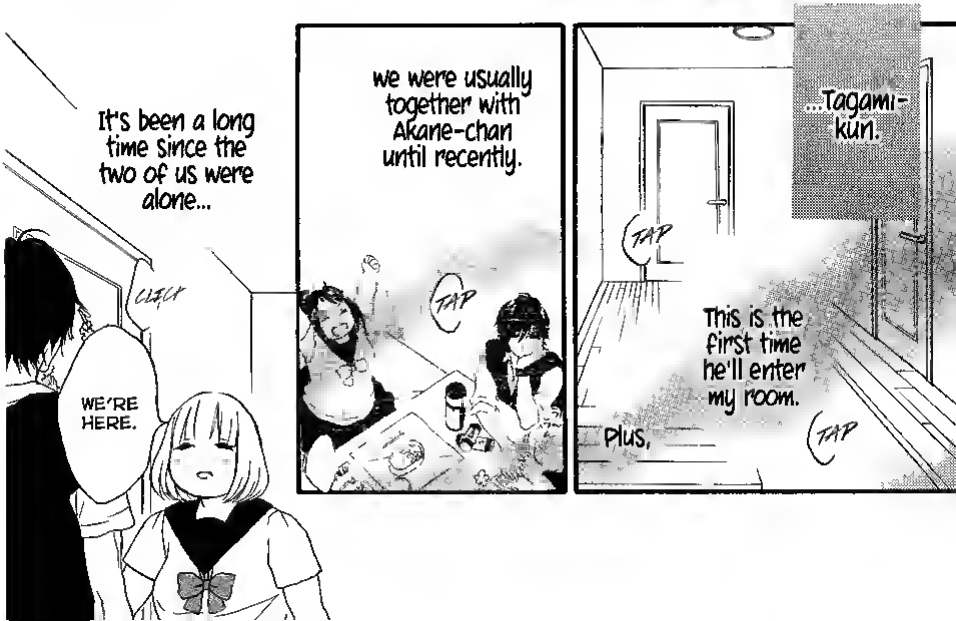
Wah...
TH-
THANK YOU...
...NO PROBLEM.
That reminds me,
it's been a long time since Tagami-kun touched me...
Sigh
...Oh?

...WE TURN FROM HERE, RIGHT?
AH...
YES.
WE'RE ALMOST THERE.
...Somehow,
the way he touched me seemed different from usual...
Is it just my imagination...?
Welcome!
Long time no see, Tagami-kun~!
You're here~!

I'M SORRY I HAVEN'T BEEN IN TOUCH FOR SOME TIME.
Yuki-!
I HEARD THAT YOU LOST A LOT OF WEIGHT, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR BODY IS COMPLETELY BACK TO NORMAL~
THAT'S GREAT.
IT'S THANKS TO THE BENTO YOU MADE, TSUMUGI-SAN.
Hey
ASA!
SHOULDN'T YOU CALL HIM "YUKI-KUN"?
Haaah?
"YUKI" IS FINE.
SCOLD

*T/N BENTO = BOXED JAPANESE MEAL

YUKI-KUN.
I'LL MAKE A LOT OF FOOD TODAY, SO EAT TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT LATER, OKAY~?
UNTIL THEN, WORK HARD ON STUDYING FOR YOUR TESTS.
JUST LIKE THAT?



.....
I THINK I PROPERLY CLEANED UP, BUT...
I wonder if it's good enough.
OVER HERE, TAGAMI-KUN.
...I suddenly got nervous.
BEEP
I'M GOING TO TURN ON THE AIR CONDITIO-NER.
I- IT'S HOT, ISN'T IT?
Umm...
BAAAM
I FORGOT TO SAY THIS~~
IT'S OKAY IF IT'S JUST KISSING~~
BUT
DOING ANYTHING BEYOND THAT
IS STILL NOT ALLOWED ♡
WE-

CLOSE
.....
OKAY THEN, GOOD LUCK ON STUDYING.
OH?
YOU'RE YOUNG YET VERY PATIENT, AREN'T YOU? THE TWO OF YOU ARE ADMIRABLE!
WE'RE NOT GOING TO DO THAT!
WE'RE JUST GOING TO STUDY~~!
SORRY MY MOM SAID SOMETHING WEIRD...
IT'S HOT, ISN'T IT?
PLEASE HAVE SOME ICED TEA...
Geez, mom!
Now, I've become super conscious~!
...TSUMUGI.
Y-
YES?

...BUT ISN'T IT CRAMPED?
IT'S NOT HOT,
TOO CLOSE

My body takes a lot of space, too
He's right.
WE DON'T HAVE TO USE THE SAME DESK ANYWAY

...The sound of him writing.
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH

"I might pounce on you sooner or later."
is so focused.
Tagami-kun
It's probably because I've been touched by him to some extent
that I've already prepared myself for it, but...
AS EXPECTED, IT LOOKS LIKE NOTHING OF THAT SORT WILL HAPPEN.
I've come to realize it from the incident with Akane-chan.
Far from what I thought,
FU FU!
Tagami-kun is...
I WAS JUST THINKING... THAT YOU'RE SO DILIGENT.
HM?
...WHAT IS IT?
WELL, YOU SEE,

I was able to know more about Tagami-kun.
I have to thank Akane-chan for this.
SINCE YOU'RE STUDYING SO HARD.
Hah
.....
...HM?
The sound has stopped?
TURN
TWITCH
WHAT'S WRONG?
.....
IS THERE A PROBLEM YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND OR SOMETHING...?
...THAT.

ISN'T THAT A COSMOS?
I SEE~ YOU ALSO HAVE COSMOSES BLOOMING THERE~
YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH IT, TAGAMI-KUN?
...THE COLOR IS DIFFERENT FROM THOSE IN OUR GARDEN.
.....
TSUMUGI.
HM?
THE PERSON YOU'RE ON DUTY WITH
IS A GUY?
THAT'S RARE, THOUGH.
IT'S A PRETTY COMMON FLOWER, BUT FOR A GUY TO KNOW EVEN ITS NAME...
HEHHH.
WHEN I WAS ON DUTY AS A GARDENING COMMITTEE MEMBER YESTERDAY,
THERE WAS SOMEONE WHO MISTOOK FLOWERS FOR WEEDS AND PLUCKED THEM OUT WHEN THEY'VE JUST FINALLY GROWN...

I don't want to hide anything from Tagami-kun.
...YOU SEE,
THAT GUY,
"Oh no... wouldn't it be better to tell him?"
...you were right, Tomo-chan.
He found out from how I talked about it.
"For a guy to know even its name..."
That's right...
...AH.
...YEAH.
IT'S DECIDED BY TURNS IN CLASS, SO I GOT ASSIGNED TOGETHER WITH A GUY FROM THE CLASS NEXT TO US...
IT'S HIYAMA-KUN.
Since this is Tagami-kun we're talking about, he probably won't get jealous anyway...
...EVEN THOUGH I DON'T LIKE IT?

I DON'T LIKE IT WHEN YOU'RE ALONE WITH A GUY OTHER THAN ME.
...EH?
...Tagami-kun is...
.....
I'M SORRY...
His response that time...
UHM...
BUT...
.....

...WHEN I WALKED TO THE STATION WITH SEIJI-KUN ON THE WAY HOME.
YOU DIDN'T...
SEIJI IS FINE.
HE WILL NOT MAKE A MOVE ON YOU, TSUMUGI.
BUT THAT GUY...
...Tagami-kun is...
THAT GUY WHO TOUCHES YOU A LOT.
I ABSOLUTELY HATE HIM...!

...WHAT ARE YOU SMILING FOR?
Huh?
...WHAT?
I'M SORRY.
...I—
BUT...
I REALLY FEEL SORRY ABOUT IT.
YOU GOT IT WRONG!
AH??
I JUST USED TO THINK THAT
YOU'RE NOT THE TYPE TO GET JEALOUS, TAGAMI-KUN.
I'M GLAD...

I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT STUDYING.
I ACTUALLY WANT TO TOUCH YOU ALL THIS TIME, TSUMUGI.
RATHER, I'M A REALLY JEALOUS PERSON.
EVEN I CAN GET JEALOUS.
I WANT TO TOUCH YOUR WHOLE BODY.
...BUT
YOU'RE STILL BOTHERED BY THAT, RIGHT...?
I'VE BEEN HOLDING BACK SINCE THEN.
THAT'S WHY,
I DON'T WANT TO TROUBLE YOU AGAIN JUST LIKE THAT TIME.

THANK YOU, TAGAMI-KUN.
So that's the reason
...he seemed uneasy when he touched me that time.
THANK YOU.
FOR CONSIDERING MY FEELINGS,
TURN AWAY
Ah!
And...
I'M REALLY SORRY!

IF YOU'RE GOING TO APOLOGIZE
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M HINTING.
EH?
YOU SHOULD DO IT HERE, RIGHT?
EEEHHH?!
That_
AH!
BLUSH
THAT_
.....
UHM_

I'm sorry.
...IS EVERYTHING
ALL RIGHT NOW...?
ONE MORE.
EEEHH??
I'm really grateful.